## Texas Workforce Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **TWC Awards Grant to Improve Adult Education Training**

Adult Education Department of Region 6 Education Service Center receives \$515,020

AUSTIN – More than 30 percent of all students enrolled in adult education and literacy courses in Texas have less than a sixth grade level of reading, math and language skills. To address the need for improving basic skills for adult learners, the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) allocated \$515,020 to develop a Reading Institute and to update an established Mathematics Institute which will create enhanced training materials and promote success for adult education program participants as they work toward attainment of high school equivalency credentials. Providing adults with English language, math, reading and writing skills needed to succeed in the workforce is the goal of TWC's Adult Education and Literacy program.

The grant was awarded to the Adult Education Department of Region 6 Education Service Center (Region 6) and will help update an Adult Initiatives for Math (AIM) Institute and create a Reading Institute, known as Helping Adults Read for Transitions (HART). The goal for AIM and HART is to create a training model for teachers that will help them provide adult learners with the resources and skills to become self-sufficient.

The Reading and Math Institutes will help evolve professional development in adult education by training a select number of adult educators across the state. Region 6 will provide training, evaluation and follow-up support to local instructional staff through 28 education regions across Texas. The training programs will align with the Texas Adult Education Content Standards and Benchmarks (TAESCB) by using research-based best practices in the classrooms.

"This important initiative allows us to partner with educational organizations that will help Texans gain basic skills needed for employment," said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Ruth R. Hughs.

The newly developed and updated institutes will help adult learners prepare to enter postsecondary programs and/or career pathways.

"The skills gained by adult learners as a result of this program, will help these individuals acquire language and math skills that will set them up for future success," said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Julian Alvarez.

TWC's Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) programs expand opportunities through the support of workforce training efforts, and align occupational skills with today's high demand jobs. Individuals interested in the AEL program can visit www.twc.state.tx.us/partners/adult-education-literacy.

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The Texas Workforce Commission is a state agency dedicated to helping Texas employers, workers and communities prosper economically. For details on TWC and the services it offers in coordination with its network of local workforce development boards, call 512-463-8942 or visit www.texasworkforce.org. To receive notifications about TWC programs and services subscribe to our email updates.